first run of " Merry Wives " and of all the revivals, and is still as fresh as paint!

That very successful dress cost no time. Another very successful dress—the white one that I wore in the Court Scene in " A Winter's Tale," cost no money. My daughter made it out of material of which a sovereign must have covered the cost.

My daughter says to know what *not* to do is the secret of making stage dresses. It is not a question of time or of money, but of omission.

One of the best " audiences " that actor or actress could wish for was Mr. Gladstone. He used often to >come and see the play at the Lyceum from a little seat in the O.P, entrance, and he nearly always arrived^five minutes before the curtain went up. One night I thought he would catch cold—it was a bitter night—and I lent him my white scarf!

He could always give his whole great mind to the matter in hand. This made him one of the most comfortable people to talk to that I have ever met. In everything he was *thorough,* and I don't think he could have been late for anything.

I contrasted his punctuality, when he came to see " King Lear/' with the unpunctuality of Lord Randolph Churchill, who came to see the play the very next night with a party of men friends and arrived when the first act was over. Lord Randolph was, all the same, a great admirer of Henry Irving, He confessed to him once that he had never read a play of Shakespeare's in his life, but that after seeing Henry act he thought it was time to

begin | A very few days later he pulverised us with his complete and masterly knowledge of at least half a dozen of the plays. He was a perfect person to meet at a dinner or supper— brilliantly entertaining, and queerly simple. He struck one